

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Adult Performance Indicator Project Advisory Group

FROM: John Pandiani  
Lisa Gauvin  
Lucille Schacht

DATE: June 11, 1997

RE: Access to Community Mental Health Services in Vermont and  
New Hampshire

The attached pages describe the results of a comparison of utilization rates for community mental health programs in Vermont and New Hampshire. This project is a collaboration of Vermont and New Hampshire Departments of Mental Health staff under the auspices of the Organization of the Northern New England Mental Health Statistics Improvement Project. We hope to develop more measure states, and to expand to include other states in the region that compare programs performance access.

We look forward to your comments on the quality of the data, the appropriateness of the analysis, and the effectiveness of the presentation of these data, as well as your interpretation of the results.

**Access to Mental Health Services**  
**Part VIII**  
**Vermont and New Hampshire**

**Question:** Does the proportion of residents who receive services from community mental health programs (penetration rate) vary substantially among Vermont and New Hampshire's community mental health service areas? (This was a "Next Question" on our May 14 report on adult mental health clients served in Vermont.)

**Data:** Information on the number of people who received services from community mental health programs for adults in Vermont was obtained from FY1996 quarterly service reports submitted to DDMHS by community providers. Information on the number of people who received services from community mental health programs in New Hampshire was obtained from the New Hampshire Department of Mental Health & Developmental Services Quarterly Management and Briefing Report (FY96, Fourth Quarter). Population figures are for 1990 in both Vermont and New Hampshire.

**Analysis:** Penetration rates were calculated for each of the ten community mental health service areas in Vermont and in New Hampshire.\* The graph is organized by population density of the 20 community service areas, with Vermont programs depicted in black bars and New Hampshire programs depicted in white bars. Separate calculations were made for Community Support Programs (CSP) (a.k.a. CRT in Vermont) and Adult Outpatient Programs (AOP).

**Results:** There was substantial variation among the 20 regions of Vermont and New Hampshire in the proportion of residents served in both programs. In the CSPs, Vermont's Washington County service areas (home of the Vermont State Hospital) has the highest penetration rate, serving 11 of every 1,000 residents. In New Hampshire, the Manchester service area had the highest penetration rate (8 people served per 1,000 population) followed by the central service area (home of the New Hampshire State Hospital) at 7 per 1,000 population.

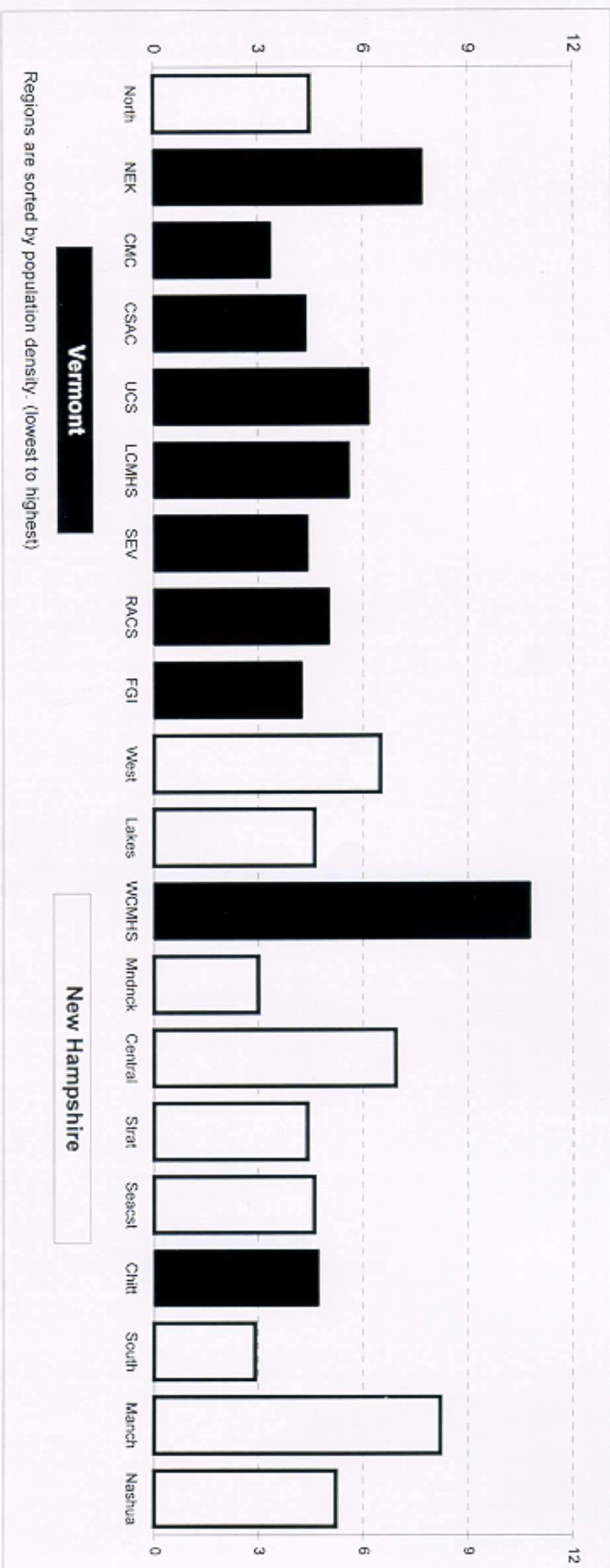
Among the AOPs, the west region of New Hampshire (location of Dartmouth Hitchcock) has the highest rate. (New Hampshire Department of Mental Health and Developmental Services staff have suggested that this mental health center may be serving Vermont residents.) The north region (also with the lowest population density) has the second highest penetration rate.

**Next Questions:** How many people cross state lines to receive mental health services? How do Vermont and New Hampshire compare to other states? Have penetration rates changed at different rates in the two states?

\*Penetration rates for this analysis were calculated from total population. Penetration rates for the May 14 analysis of adult mental health clients served in Vermont were based on adult population.



# Community Support Programs People Served Per 1,000 Population, FY1996

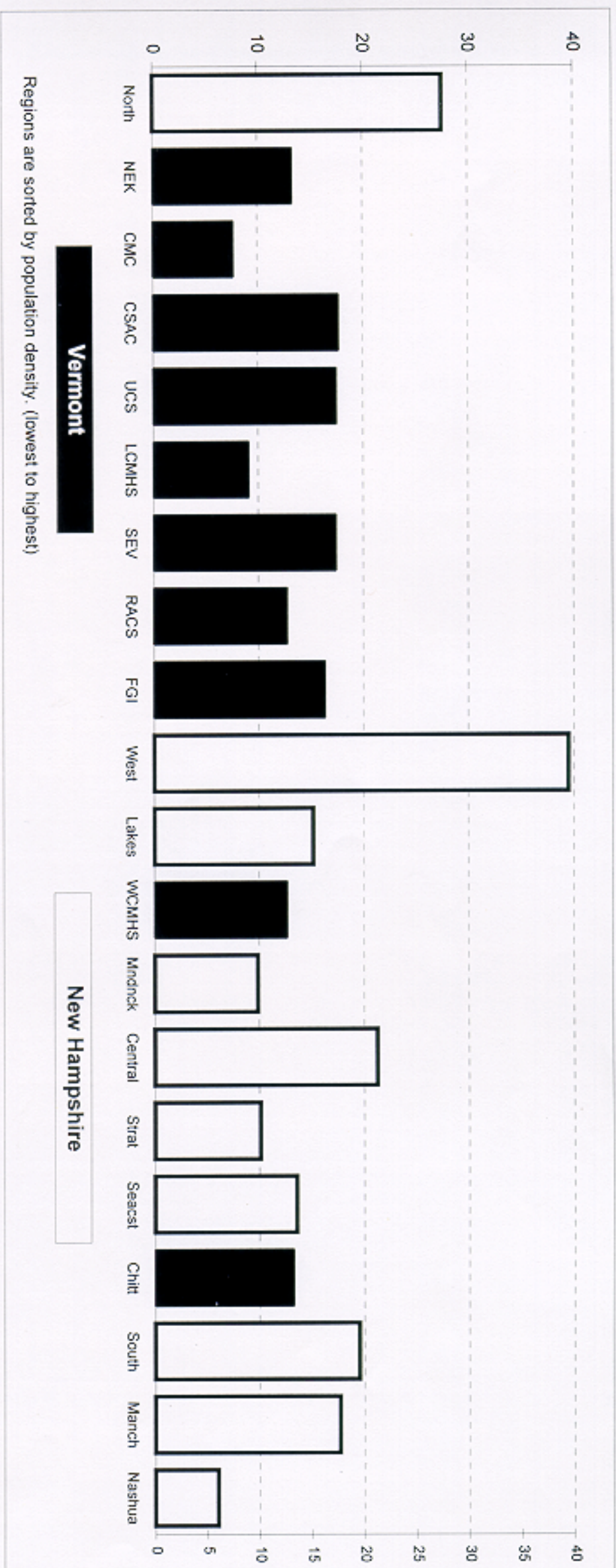


Vermont			New Hampshire		
Region	Population Density	Rate Per 1,000 Population	Region	Population Density	Rate Per 1,000 Population
Northeast (NEK)	28	8	Northern (North)	24	4
Orange (CMC)	34	3	West Central (West)	75	6
Addison (CSAC)	46	4	Lakes	78	5
Bennington (UCS)	55	6	Monadnock (Mindock)	91	3
Lamoille (LCMHS)	56	6	Central	117	7
Southeast (SEV)	59	4	Stratford (Strat)	267	4
Rutland (RACS)	67	5	Seacoast (Seacst)	283	5
Franklin/Grand Isle (FGI)	73	4	Southern (South)	496	3
Washington (WCMHS)	80	11	Manchester (March)	579	8
Chittenden (Chitt)	284	5	Nashua	597	5
Total	64	6	Total	119	5

Population Density = Population/Square Miles.  
Rate per 1,000 Population is based on total population.



# Adult Outpatient Programs People Served Per 1,000 Population, FY1996



Vermont			New Hampshire		
Region	Population Density	Rate Per 1,000 Population	Region	Population Density	Rate Per 1,000 Population
Northeast (NEK)	28	13	Northern (North)	24	28
Orange (CMC)	34	8	West Central (West)	75	39
Addison (CSAC)	46	18	Lakes	78	15
Bennington (UCS)	55	17	Monadnock (Mindock)	91	10
Lamoille (LCMHS)	56	9	Central	117	21
Southeast (SEV)	59	17	Stratford (Strat)	267	10
Rutland (RACS)	67	13	Seacoast (Seacst)	283	14
Franklin/Grand Isle (FGI)	73	16	Southern (South)	496	20
Washington (WCMHS)	80	13	Manchester (Manch)	579	18
Chittenden (Chitt)	284	13	Nashua	597	6
Total	64	14	Total	119	17

Population Density = Population/Square Miles.  
Rate per 1,000 Population is based on total population.